

Minutes of the Bondi Junction Precinct Meeting held at Waverley Library on 23 November 2011

Chaired by Peter Lynch with Stephen B. Cohen taking minutes

The meeting opened at 6.30 pm

All current correspondence and notifications are available at the rear of the room.

Present

Mayor John Wakefield; Councillor Sally Betts; Councillor Mora Main; Councillor Tony Kay; Councillor Kerryn Sloan (from 8.20 pm); Council officers: Tony Reed, General Manager; George Bramis, Divisional Manager Strategic Planning; and Renee Tourle, Linda Bathur ; Tony Moses; and 18 residents were present, as per the attendance sheets.

Apologies

George Newhouse; Andrea Baker; Jennifer Lynch; Matt and Edys Dunn.

Absent

Councillor Rose Jackson

Address by Tony Reed, General Manager

Tony Reed outlined Waverley Council's organisational values: Great customer service; Great leadership; Working together; Respect for all; Getting the job done safely, sustainably and on time; and Working ethically.

These values form the key foundations of the two codes of conduct. One for Staff, Delegates and Volunteers and the other for Councillors.

Presentation of Waverley Council's planning review - Proposed changes to the Local Environment Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP) by George Bramis, Divisional Manager Strategic Planning and Renee Tourle, Planner

George Bramis presented the new LEP & DCP which were required to be prepared by the State Government.

The new LEP is on public display from 19 October 2011 till 30 November 2011. It is expected to be gazetted in June 2012.

It was explained that the digital maps were more suitable for viewing than the hardcopy as it is possible to zoom in on specific locations.

Renee Tourle highlighted various aspects of the DCP - Changes to transport in our area; The State Government taking the approval of liquor licenses for restaurants out of the hands of Council; and the dwelling target of 2,200 new residences along with 2,200 new commercial job opportunities in the Waverley Council area. These would be focused mainly in Bondi Junction and would be achieved over the next ten years.

Mayor John Wakefield added some of his thoughts on transport in the area especially around Syd Einfield Drive. Syd Einfield Drive is a barrier and needs to be integrated into our area. In order to improve transport in Bondi Junction, buses should be funneled into the transport interchange from Syd Einfield Drive and there should be a direct connection into Westfield for cars travelling across the bypass.

Report from the Bondi Junction Precinct hotel subcommittee by Danielle Ecuver

The Bondi Junction Precinct hotel subcommittee has had two meetings recently. They have been trying to resolve problems and formulate solutions.

Waverley Council will soon have a link on their website enabling residents to complain about problem behaviour caused by drinking.

Waverley Council is currently costing the provision of public urinals.

Danielle Ecuyer stated that Theobroma has lodged a DA for a Chocolate Lounge Bar. The main concern being that they have requested a Primary Service Authorization liquor license (PSA) for the sale of alcohol with or without a meal. This being in an area already heavily serviced by hotels serving alcohol.

Danielle added that a PSA is attached to the premises and not the owner. If a restaurant with a PSA goes out of business, then the PSA is transferred to the new owners who may not be as responsible in the service of alcohol as the original applicant.

Danielle moved on to discuss two other DAs:

1. Subway have applied for a change of closing hours from 10 pm to 2 am
2. There has also been an application for a 24 hour gym on the corner of Gray and Ann Street Bondi Junction.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting on 17 August 2011

Frank Cahill requested that a couple of paragraphs in the previous minutes be amended.

This was put to the vote but was defeated 5 to 4.

April O'Keefe mentioned that three new masthead amplifier towers were being placed at 130 Denison Street.

Outstanding matters carried forward from previous meetings

18 May 2011

Shopping trolley address by Libby O'Neill

Libby O' outlined the current situation regarding abandoned shopping trolleys around the Bondi Junction area. Problem areas being near bus stops, taxi ranks and fire exits.

Council has been working with major retailers to find a solution.

Fines for infringements and to recover impounded trolleys has resulted in retailers taking more of an interest in talking to Council.

Mark Taylor from Willoughby City Council was instrumental in their Council' success in eradicating abandoned shopping trolleys using magnetic wheel locks.

The effectiveness of wheel locks is demonstrated in this short video: <http://bit.ly/trlock>

Eric Scott said that until this technology is installed in our local shopping centres, phoning the 1800 number for Trolley Trackers is still an effective way of getting abandoned trolleys removed from the streets.

Response

Councillor Sally Betts stated that Westfield have agreed to install a system to restrict trolleys from exiting the building. Eastgate had already agreed to do this. Implementing this may take up to six months.

18 May 2011

Motion

Amended motion to request a name change of residential areas of Bondi Junction to Mill Hill

Stephen B. Cohen submitted an amended motion to request a name change of residential areas of Bondi Junction to Mill Hill.

Since lodging the original motion to change the suburb name for part of Bondi Junction, it has been requested by people who have spoken to Stephen to extend the area of the proposed suburb to cover all the low density residential areas north of Queens Park, rather than just the area which is currently in the locality of Mill Hill.

The new suburb would be an effective way of defining the low density residential properties and would help to keep high density and commercial developments out of the suburb.

We request Council make provision for the change when allocating the 2012-2013 budget.

This is the motion:

That the official suburb name of the area that includes most of the western heritage residential section of BONDJUNCTION to be renamed MILL HILL, retaining the postcode 2022.

Mill Hill is the current locality name for the western part of this area, but it is proposed to extend the suburb eastwards as many similar residences of historical interest can be found there.

The proposed area of Mill Hill would be bounded by Oxford Street; York Road, Birrell Street & Bronte Road (or Brisbane Street). The suburb of Mill Hill would not include the commercial area bounded by Oxford Street, Denison Street, Ebley Street & Newland Street).

The motion was seconded by Eric Scott and carried.

Response

As reported in May to the Bondi Junction precinct Waverley Council Officers have investigated the process for renaming suburbs or areas with the Geographical Names Board.

The process involves many different steps including community consultation and reporting to a full Council meeting for endorsement of any recommended changes. Council would in any case need to have evidence of broad community acceptance of this proposal before considering name changes. The Precinct will need to demonstrate broad residents' support through community consultation.

The request will be referred for consideration in the 2012-13 Budget process however please note that Council will need to consider any new requests for increased service delivery that requires additional funding. Precincts would be aware that following the decision the rate increase which will deliver less revenue than anticipated, Council has now established a Service efficiency Committee to address the funding shortfall. More information about how Council proposes to manage this situation will be available and presented to the Precincts in November.

The motion requires clarification as its stated objective of "high density" out of the suburb cannot be achieved by this proposed suburb change.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

The next meeting will be held at Waverley Library at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 22 February 2012.